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> Fact Sheet #997 Revised Date: 6/26/06

THE FRONT DOOR TO WISCONSIN'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES

What is WIFrontDoor? WIFrontDoor is a database that is available to anyone with Internet access. WIFrontDoor has two primary sections. First, it provides a statewide directory of Wisconsin's affordable housing units available for low to moderate-income households. Second, it lists community social services offered throughout Wisconsin including rental assistance, emergency shelter, eviction prevention, and similar services. The community services and housing data is accessible through on-screen search locators. This program is currently being funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants and generous contributions and support from the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) and participating partner agencies. HUD is viewing Wisconsin as a model for potential implementation of this program in other states or communities.

Why is *WiFrontDoor* Needed? Locating affordable housing is a steadily increasing nationwide problem for low to middle income persons. HUD and the Wisconsin Department of Commerce created WiFrontDoor to help solve this problem. Property owners and managers need a low-cost method for advertising and filling their vacant properties. Service agencies, churches, and others assisting low to moderate-income persons need help finding housing and service information.

Who benefits from *WIFrontDoor*? Public housing authorities, property owners and managers can quickly and efficiently list their affordable units, post vacancies and remove leased units for *free.* **This is the only free listing in the state of Wisconsin.* Prospective renters and agencies that assist renters are able to search WIFrontDoor for available units using search criteria such as: unit size, rent amount, amenities, location, and handicap accessibility. Anyone assisting low-income persons, or persons with temporary housing problems will be able to search for supportive services in their area.

WIFrontDoor helps housing seekers locate housing they can afford, and provides a means for service agencies to assist in tenant placement. Property owners/managers will benefit from communications with pre-sold renters.

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Visit our Web page at http://commerce.wi.gov/CD/CD-bfi.html



